

Paolo Jorio
Roberto Prato
Luigi Boggio
Rinaldo Plebani
Corrado Modugno
Simone Bongiovanni
Luigi Franzolin
Elena Cerbaro
M. Cristina Baldini
Giancarlo Revelli
Mauro Eccetto
Raffaele Borrelli

Fabio D'Angelo
Mirko Bergadano
Matteo Bellemo
Matteo Maccagnan
Daniele Cernuzzi
Stefano Manconi Dirrigl
Raffaella Barbuto

Francesco Fabio
Robert Scotti (US IP Att.)
Satsuki Takasaka

Andrea Bernotti
Paolo Lovino
Francesco Fiussello
Cesare Bosman
Stefania Berta
Bruno Zampugno
Simone Mangini
Edoardo Mola
Lorenzo Nannucci
Manuela Giannini
Cristina Rolando
Andrea Fiorini
Michele Di Sciuva
Lidia Casciano
Alessandro Putzolu
Giovanni Lo Cigno
Gerardo Valeriano

Legal Advisers:
Claudio Costa
Maria Teresa Saguatti
Chiara Luzzato
Alberto Improda
Raffaella Arista



10/573496
STUDIO TORTA
JORIO, PRATO, BOGGIO & Partners
24 MAR 2005

Via Viotti, 9 - 10121 Torino - Italy
Tel. +39-011.561.13.20; Fax +39-011.562.21.02
Videoconference +39-011.518.42.48 (6 ISDN channels H.320)
E-mail: info@studiotorta.it Internet: www.studiotorta.com

Industrial Property Consultants - Established in 1879
European and Italian Patent Attorneys
European and Italian Trade Mark and Design Attorneys
TURIN MILAN BOLOGNA TREVISO RIMINI ROME

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

IPEA

**D-80298 MÜNCHEN,
GERMANY**

Torino, August 30, 2005

**BY FAX
TOTAL PAGES: 4**

Our Ref.: Case E-1837/03

Re: International Patent Application No. PCT/IT2003/000568
SO.L.E.S. - SOCIETA' LAVORI EDILI E SERBATOI S.P.A.

Dear Sirs,

thank you for your Communication of 20.06.2005 relating to a first written opinion for the application in object.

According to Art. 34 and Rule 66 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty, we submit an amendment of the International Patent Application in object; please find enclosed herewith a copy of new pages 46 and 47 replacing the corresponding pages 46 and 47 sent with our letter of 20.04.2005.

Claims 96-101 have been amended so as to relate to a foundation structure on the ground comprising at least one through hole and at least one metal pile having a bottom main head bigger than the hole.

US5234287A1 does not show, disclose or even suggest a pile having a main head, the transverse dimensions of the which are greater than those of the through hole in the foundation structure.

Please note that US5234287A1 discloses that "The end cap 34, being slightly larger than the pier sections 30 clears the way and reduces skin friction." (column 5, lines 10-12); this does not

10121 Torino
Via Viotti, 9
Tel. +39-011.561.13.20
Fax. +39-011.562.21.02

20123 Milano
Corso Magenta, 56
Tel. +39-02.48.01.42.16
Fax +39-02.48.01.50.82

40133 Bologna
Via Emilia Ponente, 34
Tel. +39-051.38.91.22
Fax +39-051.38.90.30

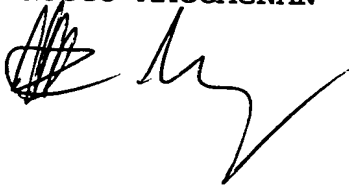
31100 Treviso
Viale Appiani, 26
Tel. +39-0422.22.199
Fax +39-0422.23.316

00187 Roma
Via Due Macelli, 47
Tel. +39-06.67.91.589
Fax +39-06.67.97.747

means that the end cap 34 is larger than the hole through the foundation 2 (which is much larger than the pier sections 30).

Yours faithfully,

Matteo MACCAGNAN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Matteo Maccagnan', with a large checkmark-like flourish at the end.

for the extracting device.

95) A method as claimed in Claim 94, wherein the extracting device comprises at least two hydraulic jacks on opposite sides of the auxiliary pile; the movable output member of each hydraulic jack being connected mechanically to the auxiliary pile; and the bodies of the two hydraulic jacks resting on the foundation structure (1).

96) A foundation structure (1) on the ground (2) comprising at least one through hole (4) and at least one metal pile (3), which is inserted through the through hole (4), is fixed axially to the foundation structure (1), and comprises a rod (9) and at least one bottom main head (10) contacting the ground (2); the foundation structure (1) is characterized in that the transverse dimensions of the main head (10) are greater than those of the hole (4).

97) A foundation structure (1) as claimed in Claim 96, wherein the main head (10) is pointed.

98) A foundation structure (1) as claimed in Claim 96 or 97, wherein the rod (9) differs in thickness and/or shape along the longitudinal axis of the pile (3).

99) A foundation structure (1) as claimed in Claim 96, 97 or 98, wherein the pile (3) comprises a jacket of cement material (31) surrounding the rod (9); and the transverse dimension of the jacket of cement material (31) of the pile (3) differing along the longitudinal

axis of the pile (3).

100) A foundation structure (1) as claimed in Claim 99, wherein the jacket of cement material (31) at an intermediate segment of the pile (3) has a larger
5 transverse dimension than at a top end segment of the pile (3).

101) A foundation structure (1) as claimed in Claim 99, wherein the jacket of cement material (31) at a bottom segment of the pile (3) has a larger transverse
10 dimension than at a top end segment of the pile (3).